

and present, of R.J. Vial, I offer my congratulations. Because of your efforts in the classroom for the past thirty years, R.J. Vial Elementary School has become the beacon of success that it is today.

Happy Birthday, R.J. Vial Elementary School! My heartfelt congratulations to all involved with the school, and best wishes to another great 30 years.●

HONORING POPE JOHN PAUL II

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I was unable to be present for today's vote honoring His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. At the time of the vote, I was in Colorado attending my father-in-law's funeral service. Having been an original cosponsor of the resolution, I would have supported the measure if present.

As we mourn the passage of Pope John Paul II, we also pause to reflect on the many blessings his life bestowed upon the world. This great man was not only a defender of his faith, but of the weakest and most vulnerable among us. He will be remembered, without doubt, as one of the most significant and influential figures of the 20th Century. His influence transcended the Roman Catholic Church and has had an impact on everyone's relationship with the Creator. I humbly pay my respects and honor the legacy that he leaves behind.●

NICOLE WAYANT AND CORMAC O'CONNOR

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I congratulate and honor two young Kansas students who have achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in their communities. Nicole Wayant of Topeka, KS, and Cormac O'Connor of Prairie Village, KS, have just been named State Honorees in The 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on only one high school student and one middle-level student in each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Wayant is being recognized for creating a youth health council to promote the benefits of an active, healthy lifestyle among the students in her school district.

Mr. O'Connor is being recognized for implementing an intergenerational arts program that brought senior citizens and at-risk children together for classes in visual arts, movements, theater and jazz.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contributions these young people have made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Wayant and Mr.

O'Connor are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought these young role models to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 10 years, the program has become the Nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with more than 170,000 young people participating since its inception.

Ms. Wayant and Mr. O'Connor should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. As part of their recognition, they will come to Washington in early May, along with other 2005 Spirit of Community honorees from across the country, for several days of special events, including a congressional breakfast on Capitol Hill. While here in Washington, 10 will be named America's top youth volunteers of the year by a distinguished national selection committee.

I applaud Ms. Wayant and Mr. O'Connor for their initiative in seeking to make their communities better places to live, and for the positive impact they have had on the lives of others. I also salute the other young people in my State who were named Distinguished Finalists by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for their outstanding volunteer service. They are Shawn Bryant of Leavenworth, KS; Brad Harris of Saint Paul, KS; Amanda Knox of Clifton, KS; and Creighton Olsen of Larned, KS.

All of these young people have demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world and they deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Their actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in their communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1454. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report covering defense articles and services that were licensed for export under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act during Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1455. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Taiwan Rela-

tions Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1456. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1457. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1458. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report required under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 relative to U.S. Government departments and agencies relating to the prevention of nuclear proliferation between January 1 and December 31, 2004; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1459. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report of the Attorney General relative to the Foreign Agents Registration Act for the six-month period ending December 31, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1460. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1461. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1462. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Non-proliferation, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1463. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Non-proliferation, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1464. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Non-proliferation, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1465. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1466. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1467. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1468. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1469. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1470. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1471. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1472. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1473. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1474. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1475. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1476. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1477. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1478. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1479. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1480. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, De-

partment of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1481. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1482. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1483. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1484. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1485. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1486. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1487. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Management, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1488. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Management, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1489. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1490. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1491. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, received on March 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 696. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding the transfer of students from certain schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Mr. INOUE):

S. 697. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 698. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on methacrylamido etheleneurac monomer; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 699. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on allyl ureido monomer; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 700. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on potassium sorbate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 701. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on certain sorbic acid (hexadienic acid) (2,4-hexadienoic acid); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. TALENT, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 702. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the occupational taxes relating to distilled spirits, wine, and beer; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. 703. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Bureau of Land Management land in the State of Nevada to the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARTINEZ:

S. 704. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for voluntary contributions on a grant basis to the Organization of American States (OAS) to establish a Center for Caribbean Basin Trade and to establish a skills-based training program for Caribbean Basin countries; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SARBANES:

S. 705. A bill to establish the Interagency Council on Meeting the Housing and Service Needs of Seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. COLEMAN:

S. 706. A bill to convey all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in this Act to the Secretary of the Interior for the Prairie Island Indian Community in Minnesota; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 707. A bill to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 708. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide medicare beneficiaries with access to information concerning the quality of care provided by